

IN THE CLAIMS

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. (original) A composition comprising a intermedin peptide, wherein said intermedin peptide comprises at least 18 contiguous amino acids of the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:2.
2. (original) A composition according to Claim 1, wherein said peptide comprises at least 30 contiguous amino acids of the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:2.
3. (original) The composition according to Claim 1, wherein said composition further comprises a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
4. (currently amended) A method of inducing the release of prolactin in a host, the method comprising administering to an individual the composition of Claim 3.
5. (withdrawn) A method for cardioprotection, the method comprising administering to an individual the composition of Claim 3.
6. (withdrawn) A method for reduction of hypertension, the method comprising comprising administering to an individual the composition of Claim 3.
7. (withdrawn) A method for regulation of gastric motility, the method comprising administering to an individual the composition of Claim 3.
8. (withdrawn) A method for the regulation of growth hormone release, the method comprising administering to an individual the composition of Claim 3.

9-16 (canceled)